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Long Beach Woman Pleads in Child Abduction Case

A 48-year-old woman accused of kidnapping her son pleaded guilty yesterday afternoon, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Sri Ann Johnston pleaded guilty to one felony count of child custody deprivation before Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Terry A. Bork.

The defendant was immediately sentenced to five years of formal probation and 180 days in county jail. Additionally, Johnston was ordered to attend mental health counseling for no less than one year.

Moreover, a five-year protective order was issued that is subject to any subsequent family court order for visitation.

Prosecutors said Johnston picked up her 12-year-old son on March 5 for midweek visitation, but did not take him to school the next day.

Johnston and her son were missing for several days before being located March 10 in Oceanside. The defendant was subsequently taken into custody by U.S. Marshals.

The case was investigated by the Long Beach Police Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.